

H.R.1298
United States Leadership Against
HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003

Cosponsors: Rep. Hyde, Rep. Lantos, Rep. Leach, Rep. Lee,
and Rep. David Weldon

Summary:

Authorizes \$15 billion over five years (\$3 billion per year beginning FY 2004 - FY 2008) including up to \$1 billion for the Global Fund to Combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, in FY 2004 and “such sums” in the remaining years, to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other disease, specifically tuberculosis and malaria. Under the direct authority of a HIV/AIDS Response Coordinator, the legislation calls for a five-year comprehensive, integrated, global strategy for phased expansion and coordination among relevant executive branch agencies and between the US government and foreign governments and international organizations. The legislation commits significant resources to antiretroviral treatment programs and supports the expansions of public/private partnerships and the leveraging of resources. The legislation designates an HIV/AIDS Response Coordinator responsible for oversight and coordination of all international activities of the US government.

Title I - Policy Planning and Coordination

- The bill establishes a five-year comprehensive integrated, strategy to strengthen the US capacity to respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The strategy includes specific objectives, multisectoral approaches, and specific strategies for treatment particularly the needs of families with children.
- The bill creates an HIV/AIDS Response Coordinator appointed by the President and subject to Senate confirmation, in the immediate office of the Secretary of State with the authority to coordinate inter-agency efforts, make grants and execute contracts to NGOs including faith-based organizations, and establishes in the Executive Branch an interagency technical review panel to serve as a "shadow" panel to the Global Fund;
- The bill is designed to improve coordination among relevant executive branch agencies, foreign governments, and international organizations, expand public-private partnerships, leveraging of resources, and maximize the US capabilities in the areas of technical assistance, training and research, including vaccine research.

Title II - Support for Multilateral Funds, Programs, and Public-Private Partnerships

- Authorizes the participation of the US government in the Global Fund to Combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and further authorizes “up to \$1 billion in the fiscal

year 2004 and such sums for the fiscal years 2005-2008 for contribution to the Global Fund.

- Requires annual reports to the Congress on the Global Fund, including contributions pledged to, contributions (including donations from the private sector) received, by, and projects funded by the Global Fund and the mechanisms established for transparency and accountability in the grant-making process.
- Creates an “Interagency Technical Review Panel” to serve as a “shadow” panel to the global fund by periodically reviewing all proposals received by the Global Fund and provide guidance to the US persons who are representatives on the panels. The panel will include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of State, and the Agency for International Development.
- Provides “such sums” to the Vaccine Fund for Fiscal Years 2004-2008, supports the development of a malaria vaccine with “such sums” to the Malaria Vaccine Initiative of the Program for Appropriate Technologies in Health (PATH).

Title III - Bilateral Efforts

- Authorizes the President to furnish assistance as he may determine to prevent, treat, and monitor HIV/AIDs, and carry out related activities in countries in sub-Saharan Africa and other countries and areas. President should provide funds to NGOs
- Prevention is stressed using the “ABC” strategy – Abstinence, Is Faithful, and, when appropriate, use Condoms, that has proven so successful in countries like Uganda. Provides assistance to establish culturally appropriate education and prevention programs that focus on helping individuals avoid infection of HIV/AIDS through NGOs, including faith-based and community-based organizations.
- Targets specific high risk populations with preventive intervention education and technologies for prevention and allows for the bulk purchase of necessary commodities intended to reduce the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission.
- Establishes mechanisms for quality control and sustainable supply of HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals, antiretroviral therapies and other appropriate medicines
- Provides assistance to combat tuberculosis using the “DOTS” or “Directly Observed Treatment Short-course” the World Health Organization recommends and provides treatment programs for Malaria.
- Creates a pilot program for the placement of health care professionals in overseas areas severely affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and requires a report on treatment activities by relevant executive branch agencies.
- Establishes as a high priority the prevention of mother-to-child transmission programs, the care and treatment of family members and caregivers, and the care of children orphaned by AIDS. Also requires an annual report on prevention of mother-to-child-transmission of the HIV infections

- Establishes a pilot program of assistance for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS to help families and indigenous communities cope with the stigma and encourage vulnerable children and their families to avail themselves of voluntary counseling and testing and related programs including treatment.
- Authorizes the President to establish a grant-making program, through a public/private partnership for the provision of medical care and support services to HIV positive parents and their children identified through existing programs to prevent mother-to-child-transmission.
- Requires grantees to have active policies that prohibit the promotion or advocacy of the legalization or practice of prostitution or sex trafficking.

Title IV – Authorizes \$3 billion for each of the fiscal years 2004-2008, including up to \$1 billion for the Global Fund



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
May 1, 2003

Contact: Stacey Farnen
202-225-3130

HOYER RECOGNIZES OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

“Honor Our Older Citizens and Protect Their Priorities”

WASHINGTON – House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer released the following statement today, in recognition of Older Americans Month, which is observed throughout May. The theme for 2003 is “What We Do Makes A Difference.” Older Americans Month originated with a presidential proclamation in May 1963, and has been proclaimed by the president every year since then.

“This month we honor the millions of older Americans who play important roles in our lives and our communities. From the volunteer at your elementary school to the veteran who lives next door, I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to pay tribute to America’s seniors who contribute their time, wisdom, and experience to help their families and our society.

“Unfortunately, senior Americans have recently been the target of harmful budget cuts that disregard our country’s tradition of respect for our older citizens. The 2004 Republican budget will slash billions from veterans’ benefits, and health care and caregiver programs. President Bush’s reckless fiscal policies have plundered the \$2 trillion in Social Security and Medicare surpluses. The Republican budget ax has even cut proven programs with bipartisan support such as Meals on Wheels, which provides sustenance to homebound seniors.

“Additionally, President Bush’s program to reform Medicare and provide a prescription drug benefit is in reality an effort to coerce millions of seniors into privatized care, forcing older Americans to leave doctors they trust. His plan does not provide the universal, affordable, guaranteed and voluntary prescription drug benefit under Medicare that Democrats have pledged to provide our seniors.

“Democrats don’t agree that senior citizens should be shortchanged by the wealthy and healthy society that they helped create. I hope that all Americans will join together this Older Americans Month and beyond to fight for the needs and priorities of aging Americans. Our parents and grandparents are counting on us.”

###